

# QUI

When the supreme faculties move regularly, the inferior passions and affections following, there arises a serenity and complacency upon the whole soul, infinitely beyond the greatest bodily pleasures, the highest *quintessence* and elixir of worldly delights. *South's Sermons.*

**QUINTESSENTIAL.** *adj.* [from *quintessence*.] Consisting of quintessence.

Venturous assertions as would have puzzled the authors to have made them good, specially considering that there is nothing contrary to the *quintessential* matter and circular figure of the heavens; so neither is there to the light thereof. *Hakew.*

**QUINTIN.** *n. f.* [I know not whence derived; *Minfrew* deduces it from *quintus*, Lat. and calls it a game celebrated every fifth year; *palus quintanus*, Lat. *Ans.* *quintaine*, Fr.] An upright post, on the top of which a cross post turned upon a pin, at one end of the cross post was a broad board, and at the other a heavy sand bag; the play was to ride against the broad end with a lance, and pass by before the sand bag coming round, should strike the tilter on the back.

At *quintin* he,  
In honour of his bridegroom,  
Hath challeng'd either wide countess;  
Come cut and long tail, for there be  
Six batchelors as bold as he,  
Adjoining to his company,  
And each one hath his livery. *Benj. Johnson.*

**QUINTUPLE.** *n. f.* [*quintuplus*, Lat.] Fivefold.

In the country, the greatest proportion of mortality, one hundred and fifty-fix, is above *quintuple* unto twenty-eight the least. *Graunt's Bills of Mortality.*

**QUIP.** *n. f.* [derived, by the etymologists, from *whip*.] A sharp jest; a taunt; a sarcasm.

Notwithstanding all her sudden *quips*,  
The least whereof would quell a lover's hope,  
Yet, spaniel like, the more she spurns my love,  
The more it grows, and fawneth on her still. *Shakespeare.*

If I sent him word his beard was not well cut, he would send me word, he cut it to please himself: this is called the *quip* modest. *Shakespeare. As You Like It.*

Nymph bring with thee  
Jest and youthful jollity,  
Quips, and cranks, and wanton wiles,  
Nods, and becks, and wreathed smiles. *Milton.*

To **QUIP.** *v. a.* To rally with bitter sarcasms. *Ainsworth.*

**QUIRE.** *n. f.* [*cheur*, Fr. *chore*, Italian.]

1. A body of fingers; a chorus.

The trees did bud and early blossoms bore,  
And all the *quire* of birds did sweetly sing,  
And told that garden's pleasures in their caroling. *Fa. Qu.*

Myself have lim'd a bush for her,  
And plac'd a *quire* of such enticing birds,  
That the will light to listen to their lays. *Shakespeare.*

At thy nativity a glorious *quire*  
Of angels in the fields of Bethlehem sung  
To shepherds watching at their folds by night,  
And told them the Messiah now was born. *Milton.*

I may worship thee  
For ay, with temples vow'd and virgin *quires*. *Milton.*

As in beauty she surpass'd the *quire*,  
So nobler than the rest was her attire. *Dryden.*

2. The part of the church where the service is sung.

I am all on fire,  
Not all the buckets in a country *quire*  
Shall quench my rage. *Cleveland.*

Some run for buckets to the hallow'd *quire*,  
Some cut the pipes, and some the engines play. *Dryden.*

The fox obscene to gaping toms retires,  
And wolves with howling fill the sacred *quires*. *Pope.*

3. [*Cabier*, Fr.] A bundle of paper consisting of twenty-four sheets.

To **QUIRE.** *v. n.* [from the noun.] To sing in concert.

There's not the smallest orb which thou behold'st,  
But in his motion like an angel sings,  
Still *quiring* to the young-ey'd cherubims.  
My throat of war be turn'd  
Which *quird* with my drum, into a pipe  
Small as an eunuch, or the virgin's voice  
That babies lull asleep. *Shakespeare. Coriolanus.*

**QUIRISTER.** *n. f.* [from *quire*.] Chorister; one who sings in concert, generally in divine service.

The coy *quiristers*, that lodge within,  
Are prodigal of harmony. *Thomson's Spring.*

**QUIRK.** *n. f.* [of this word I can find no rational derivation.]

1. Quick stroke; sharp fit.

I've felt so many *quirks* of joy and grief,  
That the first face of neither on the start,  
Can woman me unto't. *Shakespeare.*

2. Smart taunt.

Some kind of men quarrel purposely on others to taste their valour; belike, this is a man of that *quirk*. *Shakespeare.*

I may chance to have some odd *quirks* and remnants of wit broken on me. *Shakespeare.*

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Conceits, puns, *quirks* or quibbles, jests and repartees may agreeably entertain, but have no place in the search after truth. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

3. Subtlety; nicety; artful distinction.

Most fortunately he hath achiev'd a maid,  
That paragon description and wild fame,  
One that excels the *quirks* of blazoning pens. *Shakespeare.*

Let a lawyer tell them he has spied some defect in an entail; how solicitous are they to repair that error, and leave nothing to the mercy of a law *quirk*? *Decay of Piety.*

Ply her with love letters and billets,  
And bait them well for *quirks* and quilllets. *Hudibras.*

There are a thousand *quirks* to avoid the stroke of the *L'Estrange's Fablet*.

4. Loose light tune.

Now the chappel's silver bell you hear,  
That summons you to all the pride of pray'r;  
Light *quirks* of musick, broken and uneven. *Pope.*

To **QUIR.** *v. a.* part. *quit*; pret. *I have quit or quitted.* [*quiter*, Fr. *quitar*, Italian; *quitar*, Spanith.]

1. To discharge an obligation; to make even.

We will be *quit* of thine oath, which thou hast made us to swear. *Jos. ii. 20.*

By this act, old tyrant,  
I shall be *quit* with thee; while I was virtuous,  
I was a stranger to thy blood, but now  
Sure thou wilt love me for this horrid crime. *Denham.*

To John I ow'd great obligation;  
But John, unhappily, thought fit  
To publish it to all the nation;  
Sure John and I are more than *quit*. *Prior.*

2. To set free.

Thou art *quit* from a thousand calamities; therefore let thy joy, which should be as great for thy freedom from them, as is thy sadness when thou feelest any of them, do the same cure upon thy discontent. *Taylor.*

Henceforth I fly not death, nor would prolong  
Life much: bent rather how I may be *quit*  
Fairest and easiest of this cumbrous charge. *Milton.*

To *quit* you wholly of this fear, you have already looked death in the face; what have you found so terrible in it. *Wake.*

3. To carry through; to discharge; to perform.

Never worthy prince a day did *quit*  
With greater hazard, and with more renown. *Daniel.*

4. To clear himself of an affair.

Samson hath *quit* himself  
Like Samson, and heroically hath finish'd  
A life heroic, on his enemies  
Fully reveng'd hath left them years of mourning. *Milton.*

5. To repay; to requite.

He fair the knight saluted, louting low,  
Who fair him *quitted*, as that courteous was. *Fa. Queen.*

Enkindle all the sparks of nature,  
To *quit* this horrid act. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*

6. To vacate obligations.

For our reward,  
All our debts are paid; dangers of law,  
Actions, decrees, judgments against us *quitted*. *B. Johns.*

One step higher  
Would set me highest, and in a moment *quit*  
The debt immense of endless gratitude. *Milton.*

7. To pay any obligation; to clear a debt; to be tantamount.

They both did fail of their purpose, and got not so much as to *quit* their charges; because truth, which is the secret of the most high God, whose proper handy-work all things are, cannot be compassed with that wit and those senses which are our own. *Hooker, b. i.*

Far other plaints, tears and laments  
The time, the place, and our estates require,  
Think on thy sins, which man's old foe presents  
Before that judge that *quits* each soul his hire. *Fairfax.*

Does not the air feed the flame? and does not the flame at the same time warm and enlighten the air? and does not the earth *quit* scores with all the elements in the noble fruits that issue from it. *South's Sermons.*

Still I shall hear, and never *quit* the score,  
Stunn'd with hoarse Codrus' Theleid o'er and o'er. *Dryden.*

Iron works ought to be confined to certain places, where there is no conveyance for timber to places of vent, so as to *quit* the cost of the carriage. *Temple's Miscellanies.*

8. [Contracted from *acquit*.] To absolve; to acquit.

Nor further seek what their offences be,  
Guiltless I *quit*, guilty I set them free. *Fairfax.*

9. To abandon; to forsake.

Their father,  
Then old and fond of illuse, took such sorrow,  
That he *quit* being. *Shakespeare. Cymbeline.*

Honours are promis'd  
To all will *quit* 'em; and rewards propos'd  
Even to slaves that can detect their courses. *Benj. Johnson.*

Such

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Such variety of arguments only distract the understanding, such a superficial way of examining is to *quit* truth for appearance, only to serve our vanity. *Locke.*

10. To resign; to give up.

The prince, renown'd in bounty as in arms,  
With pity saw the ill-conceal'd distress,  
Quitted his title to Campaspe's charms,  
And gave the fair one to the friend's embrace. *Prior.*

**QUITCHGRASS.** *n. f.* [*spice*, Saxon.] Dog grass.

They are the best corn to grow on grounds subject to *quitchgrass* or other weeds. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

**QUITE.** *adv.* [this is derived, by the etymologists, from *quitté*, discharged, free, Fr. which however at first appearance unlikely is much favoured by the original use of the word, which was, in this combination, *quite* and *clean*; that is, with a clean riddance: its present signification was gradually introduced.] Completely; perfectly.

Those latter exclude not the former *quite* and *clean* as unnecessary. *Hooker, b. i.*

He hath sold us, and *quite* devoured our money. *Gen. xxxi.*

If some foreign ideas will offer themselves, reject them, and hinder them from running away with our thoughts *quite* from the subject in hand. *Locke.*

The same actions may be aimed at different ends, and arise from *quite* contrary principles. *Addison's Spectator.*

**QUITRENT.** *n. f.* [*quit* and *rent*.] Small rent reserved.

Such a tax would be insensible, and pass but as a small *quittrent*, which every one would be content to pay towards the guard of the seas. *Temple's Miscellanies.*

My old master, a little before his death, wished him joy of the estate which was falling to him, desiring him only to pay the gifts of charity he had left as *quittrents* upon the estate. *Addison's Spectator, N<sup>o</sup> 517.*

**QUITS.** *interj.* [from *quit*.] An exclamation used when any thing is repaid and the parties become even.

**QUITTANCE.** *n. f.* [*quittance*, Fr.]

1. Discharge from a debt or obligation; an acquittance.

Now I am rememb'red, he scorn'd at me!  
But that's all one; omittance is no *quittance*. *Shakespeare.*

2. Recompence; return; repayment.

Mine eyes saw him in bloody state,  
Render'ing faint *quittance*, wearied and outbreath'd,  
To Henry Monmouth. *Shakespeare. Henry IV. p. ii.*

Plutus, the god of gold,  
Is but his steward; no meed but he repays  
Sevenfold above itself; no gift to him  
But breeds the giver a return exceeding  
All use of *quittance*. *Shakespeare. Timon of Athens.*

We shall forget the office of our hand,  
Sooner than *quittance* of desert and merit. *Shakespeare.*

To **QUITTANCE.** *v. a.* [from the noun.] To repay; to recompense. A word not used.

Embrace me then this opportunity,  
As fitting best to *quittance* their deceit. *Shakespeare.*

**QUITTER.** *n. f.*

1. A deliverer. *Ainsworth.*

2. Scoria of tin. *Ainsworth.*

**QUITTERBONE.** *n. f.*

*Quitterbone* is a hard round swelling upon the coronet, between the heel and the quarter, and grows most commonly on the inside of the foot. *Farrier's Dict.*

**QUIVER.** *n. f.* [this word seems to be corrupted from *couverir*, Fr. or *cover*.] A case for arrows.

As Dianne hunted on a day,  
She chanc'd to come where Cupid lay,  
His *quiver* by his head,  
One of his shafts the stole away,  
And one of hers did close convey  
Into the other's stead;  
With that love wounded my love's heart,  
But Dianne beasts with Cupid's dart.  
Diana's nymphs would be arrayed in white, their arms and shoulders naked, bows in their hands, and *quivers* by their sides. *Spenser.*

Her sounding *quiver* on her shoulder ty'd,  
One hand a dart, and one a bow supply'd.  
**QUIVER.** *adj.* Nimble; active. *Dryden.*

There was a little *quiver* fellow, and he would manage you his piece thus; and he would about and about. *Shakespeare.*

To **QUIVER.** *v. n.*

1. To quake; to play with a tremulous motion.

The birds chaunt melody on every bush,  
The green leaves *quiver* with the cooling wind. *Shakespeare.*

O'er the pommel cast the knight,  
Forward he flew, and pitching on his head,  
He *quiver'd* with his feet, and lay for dead.  
With what a spring his furious soul broke loose,  
And left the limbs still *quivering* on the ground.  
Eurydice with *quivering* voice he mourn'd,  
And Heber's banks Eurydice return'd.  
Dancing sun beams on the waters play'd,  
And verdant alders form'd a *quivering* shade. *Gay's Trivia.*

*Pope.*

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The dying gales that pant upon the trees,  
The lakes that *quiver* to the curling breeze. *Pope.*

2. To shiver; to shudder.

Zelmae would have put to her helping hand, but she was taken with such a *quivering*, that she thought it more wisdom to lean herself to a tree and look on. *Sidney, b. ii.*

**QUIVERED.** *adj.* [from *quiver*.]

1. Furnished with a quiver.

'Tis chaffity,  
She that has that, is clad in compleat steel,  
And like a *quiver'd* nymph with arrows keen,  
May trace huge forests and unharbour'd heaths,  
Infamous hills, and perilous sandy wilds. *Milton.*

2. Sheathed as in a quiver.

From him whole quills stand *quivered* at his ear,  
To him who notches sticks at Westminster. *Pope.*

To **QUO.** *v. n.* [a low word.] To move as the embryo does in the womb; to move as the heart does when throbbing.

**QUODLIBET.** *n. f.* [Latin.] A nice point; a subtlety.

He who reading on the heart,  
When all his *quodlibets* of art  
Could not expound its pulse and heat,  
Swore, he had never felt it beat. *Prior.*

**QUODLIBETARIAN.** *n. f.* [*quodlibet*, Lat.] One who talks or disputes on any subject. *Diët.*

**QUODLIBETICAL.** *adj.* [*quodlibet*, Lat.] Not restrained to a particular subject: in the schools theses or problems, anciently proposed to be debated for curiosity or entertainment, were so called. *Diët.*

**QUOIF.** *n. f.* [*coiffe*, Fr.]

1. Any cap with which the head is covered. See **COIF**.

Hence thou sickly *quoif*,  
Thou art a guard too wanton for the head,  
Which princes, flesh'd with conquest, aim to hit. *Shakespeare.*

2. The cap of a serjeant at law.

To **QUOIF.** *v. a.* [*coiffer*, Fr.] To cap; to dress with a head-dress.

She is always *quoified* with the head of an elephant, to show that this animal is the breed of that country. *Addison.*

**QUOIFFURE.** *n. f.* [*coiffure*, Fr.] Head-dress.

The lady in the next medal is very particular in her *quoiffure*. *Addison on Ancient Medals.*

**QUOIL.** *n. f.* See **COIL**.

**QUOIN.** *n. f.* [*coin*, Fr.]

1. Corner.

A sudden tempest from the desert flew  
With horrid wings, and thundered as it blew,  
Then whirling round, the *quoins* together strook. *Sandys.*

Build brick houses with strong and firm *quoins* or columns at each end. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

2. An instrument for raising warlike engines. *Ainsworth.*

**QUOIR.** *n. f.* [*coete*, Dutch.]

1. Something thrown to a great distance to a certain point.

He plays at *quits* well. *Shakespeare. Henry IV.*

When he played at *quits*, he was allowed his breeches and stockings. *Arbuthnot and Pope.*

2. The discus of the ancients is sometimes called in English *quoit*, but improperly; the game of *quoits* is a game of skill; the discus was only a trial of strength, as among us to throw the hammer.

To **QUOIT.** *v. n.* [from the noun.] To throw quoits; to play at quoits. *Dryden* uses it to throw the discus. See the noun.

Noble youths for mastership should strive  
To *quoit*, to run, and steeds and chariots drive. *Dryden.*

To **QUOIT.** *v. a.* To throw.

*Quit* him down, Bardolph, like a shove-groat filling. *Shak.*

**QUONDAM.** [*Latin*.] Having been formerly. A ludicrous word.

This is the *quondam* king, let's seize upon him: *Shakespeare.*

What lands and lordships for their owner know  
My *quondam* barber, but his worship now. *Dryden.*

**QUOOK.** *preterite of quake.* Obsolete.

Freely up those royal spoils he took,  
Yet at the lion's skin he inly *quook*. *Spenser.*

**QUORUM.** *n. f.* [Latin.] A bench of justices; such a number of any officers as is sufficient to do business.

They were a parcel of mummery, and being himself one of the *quorum* in his own country, he wondered that none of the Middlesex justices took care to lay some of them by the heels. *Addison's Freeholder, N<sup>o</sup> 44.*

**QUOTABLE.** *n. f.* [*quatus*, Lat.] A share; a proportion as assigned to each.

Scarce one in this list but engages to supply a *quota* of brisk young fellows, equip with hats and feathers. *Addison.*

**QUOTATION.** *n. f.* [from *quote*.]

1. The act of quoting; citation.

2. Passage adduced out of an author as evidence or illustration.

He, that has but ever so little examined the citations of writers, cannot doubt how little credit the *quotations* deserve, where the originals are wanting.

He rang'd his tropes, and preach'd up patience,  
Back'd his opinion with *quotations*. *Prior.*

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To QUOTE.